

Message Text

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72

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 VO-03 PPT-02 SCA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /125 W

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R 221650 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2091

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07241

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, CPAS, LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM

REF: STATE 121259

1. FCO LIBYAN DESK OFFICER PROVIDED US WITH FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON PROCEDURES BRITISH WILL FOLLOW WITH RESPECT TO LIBYAN VISA PROBLEM, NOTING THAT BRITISH PROCEDURE WILL BE BASED ON FRENCH ONES:
(A) PERSON WISHING TO TRAVEL TO LIBYA WILL BRING PASSPORT TO PASSPORT OFFICE WHERE A RUBBER STAMP WILL BE PLACED ON BLANK PAGE. STAMP HEADINGS IN ARABIC WILL CORRESPOND TO BASIC DATA IN FRONT OF PASSPORT. THIS INFORMATION WILL BE WRITTEN IN BY PASSPORT OFFICE IN ENGLISH. NO AUTHENTICATING STAMP WILL BE USED.
(B) IT WILL THEN BE UP TO TRAVELER TO GET HIS LIBYAN VISA. BRITISH DO NOT KNOW WHETHER LIBYAN EMBASSY WILL
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MAKE ARABIC TRANSLATION OF BASIC DATA OR REQUIRE
TRAVELER TO GET TRANSLATION MADE ELSEWHERE.

2. BRITISH NOTE THAT LIBYAN RADIO BROADCAST JUNE 21
ANNOUNCED THAT BRITAIN HAD AGREED TO PRINT PASSPORTS
IN ARABIC, AND FCO CONCLUDES, THOUGH THEY HAVE NOT CON-
SULTED LIBYANS, THAT THIS IS PROBABLY A SIGN THAT THEIR
PROPOSED PROCEDURE WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO LIBYAN IMMIGRA-
TION OFFICIALS.

3. BRITISH NOTE THAT THEY DO NOT ISSUE SPECIAL DIPLOMA
DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS AND THAT THEIR USE OF RUBBER STAMP
FOR TRAVEL BY DIPLOMATS DOES NOT, THEREFORE, REPRESENT
ANY CONCESSION ON THIS POINT.

4. BRITISH EXPECT TO START USING NEW PROCEDURE WHEN
RUBBER STAMPS ARE RECEIVED, PROBABLY IN THE MIDDLE OF
NEXT WEEK. THEY WILL PROBABLY ISSUE RUBBER STAMPS TO
THOSE OVERSEAS POSTS MOST LIKELY TO HAVE BRITISH
TRAVELERS APPLYING FOR LIBYAN VISAS. THEY EXPECT
FIRST TEST OF NEW PROCEDURE WILL INVOLVE BRITISH
DIPLOMAT RETURNING TO HIS LIBYAN POST.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Subject: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM
TAGS: CPAS, CVIS, LY
To: AF
ATHENS
BONN
BRUSSELS
PARIS
ROME
SECSTATE WASHDC

THE HAGUE
TRIPOLI

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